

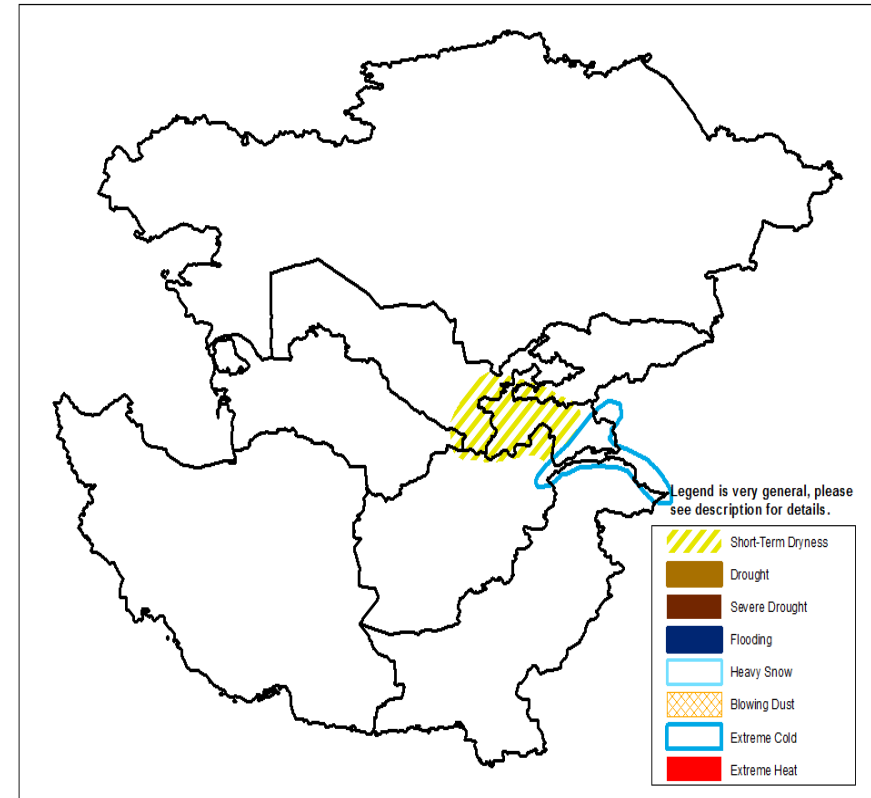
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET December 19 – December 25, 2012

Temperatures:

During early December, warmer than average temperatures returned across the lowlands of Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, and southern Kazakhstan, where positive anomalies range between 2 and 8 degrees Celsius. Conversely, average to below-average temperatures persisted throughout the higher elevations of Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan. During the next week, slightly warmer temperatures are forecast over Central Asia. However, minimum temperatures may fall below -30 degrees Celsius in northeastern Afghanistan, eastern Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and north-central Kazakhstan.

Precipitation

Snow depth increased during the past week as enhanced precipitation fell across the southern portions of Central Asia. Moderate to locally heavy (20 – 50 mm liquid equivalent) precipitation fell in the western and northeastern parts of Afghanistan, eastern Tajikistan, and along the Kazakhstan-Kyrgyzstan border. However, thirty-day precipitation anomalies still indicate weak (-25 to -10 mm) deficits in western Tajikistan and northern Afghanistan. Wet weather is forecast to continue across the higher elevations of Central Asia during the next week, with moderate showers in central Tajikistan, southern Kyrgyzstan, and eastern Kazakhstan.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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